

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EA-06 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06

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R 051020Z JUN 75

FM AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1910

INFO AMCONSUL HONG KONG

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

USLO PEKING

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE KATHMANDU 2564

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, CH, IN, NP

SUBJECT: ANTI-INDIAN PROPAGANDA FROM PRC EMBASSY

REF: KATHMANDU 2556

1. EMBASSY HAS RECEIVED CONFIDENTIAL CIRCULAR NOT (TEXT BEING POUCHED) DATED JUNE 3 FROM MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS TO ALL DIPLOMATIC MISSIONS IN WHICH ATTENTION IS DRAWN TO SO-CALLED "THIRD COUNTRY RULE" AS ENUNCIATED BY MFA IN 1967, WHEREBY MISSIONS ARE ASKED TO "REFRAIN FROM PUBLISHING, VOICING AND DISSEMINATING OFFENSIVE REMARKS AND POINTED REFERENCES AGAINST THIRD COUNTRIES AND THEIR HEADS OF GOVERNMENT."

2. NOTE GOES ON TO SAY THAT "OF LATE, SEVERAL INSTANCES HAVE COME TO THE NOTICE OF THE MINISTRY WHERE THIS REQUEST SEEMS TO HAVE BEEN COMPLETELY OVERLOOKED AND IGINORED." AS A RESULT THIS BEHAVIOR HAS BECOME A SOURCE OF DEEP EMBARRASSMENT TO HMG." NOTE CONCLUDES BY ASKING FOR "STRICT COMPLIANCE" FROM ALL MISSIONS IN THE FUTURE.

3. COMMENT: AS REPORTED REFTEL, MFA HAS TOLD US THAT
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IT HAS RAISED ISSUE OF ANTI-INDIAN PROPAGANDA WITH PRC EMBASSY ON SEVERAL OCCASIONS. CIRCULAR NOTE, HOWEVER, IS

PARTICULARLY STRONG IN ITS LANGUAGE AND SHOULD STRENGTHEN
GON ARGUMENT WITH GOI THAT IT IS MAKING ENUIE ATTEMPT TO
OBTAIN COMPLIANCE FROM CHINESE. IN POINT OF FACT, HOWEVER,
"THIRD COUNTRY RULE" IS ALL BUT UNENFORCEABLE AND HAS BEEN
CONSISTENTLY VIOLATED BY VARIOUS COUNTRIES INCLUDING USSR
AND NORTH KOREA. PRC MAY FOR A TIME BE MORE CAREFUL IN
EDITING OF ITS PRESS BULLETIN, WHICH HAS CONTAINED ARTICLES
OFFENSIVE NOT ONLY TO INDIA, BUT USSR AND OURSELVES AS WELL,
BUT WE WOULD EXPECT IT TO RESUME PUBLICATION OF ANTI-INDIAN
MATERIAL IN DUE COURSE.
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